REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, and 16 have been amended.

Priority

Applicant submits a copy of the postcard indicating that the priority documents have been properly transmitted and received by the Patent Office. In case the Patent office cannot retrieve this document, Applicant also submits a copy of the priority document.

Claim objections

The Examiner objected to claim 8 because of informalities. Applicant amended claim 8 to include the proper dependency to claim 1. Therefore, Applicant considers this objection moot.

Claim rejection under 35 USC §102:

Claim 16 has been amended to overcome the objection with respect to indefiniteness of claim 16.

Claim rejection under 35 USC §102:

Claims 1-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102, as being anticipated by Schwenke (US 6,556,910).

The Examiner stated that Schwenke discloses all the limitations of the present independent claim 1. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Applicant amended independent claims 1 and 9 to more clearly define the present invention. According to the present independent claims 1 and 9 data related to a human machine interface is automatically generated during one or more engineering steps and then stored for later retrieval. During the actual assembly of the operating component, this data is retrieved and used to provide a human machine interface. Thus, a separate step of designing a human machine interface is not necessary anymore.

Schwenke does not disclose such a specific arrangement. Schwenke discloses a different approach. According to Schwenke, in particular Fig. 4 which shows an exemplary model of the

disclosed system, different engineers provide different information at different times. Schwenke proposes a particular integration system which combines certain information provided by certain engineers, such as a control design engineer and a mechanical tool designer. The system discloses in particular the use of a plurality of control assemblies which can be used in a software development system. However, Schwenke is silent with respect to when specific data is actually provided. Schwenke uses a plurality of steps and different engineers to provide the final result. Therefore, Schwenke does not mention the particular generation of a human machine interface as claimed in the present application.

The dependent claims include all the limitations of the independent claims 1 or 9. Thus, these claims are at least allowable to the extent of the independent claims. However, these claims include further limitations which are neither shown nor suggested by the prior art. For example, claims 2 and 10 provides for the ability to prioritize certain information for the use of a human machine interface. Claims 3 and 11 provide for the inclusion of specific images related to the human machine interface. Claims 4, 5, 12 and 13 provide for manual or automatic post processing of the data. Other limitations not shown in the prior art are included in other dependent claims.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the present set of claims.
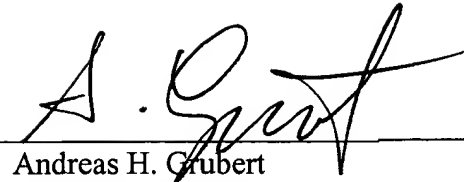
CONCLUSION

The application as defined in the pending claims is patentable under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 in view of the cited prior art. Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants do not believe that any other fees are due at this time; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Deposit Account No. 02-0383, *(formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.,)* Order Number 071308.0239.

Date: January 26, 2004

By: _____
Andreas H. Grubert
(Limited recognition 37 C.F.R. §10.9)
One Shell Plaza
910 Louisiana Street
Houston, Texas 77002-4995
Telephone: 713.229.1964
Facsimile: 713.229.7764
AGENT FOR APPLICANTS